

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SECTO 09015 01 OF 02 061925Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 NSCE-00 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 PA-02 CCO-00
SS-15 INR-10 /038 W

-----117495 061929Z /41

O 061855Z AUG 78 ZFF-6
FM USDEL SECRETARY IN JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 SECTO 09015

SECSTATE FOR PA AND PA/PRESS
DEPT PASS NSC FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI AND WHITE HOUSE
FOR MR. POWELL

USICA FOR VOA/PN, PGM/PP, PGM/RC, NEA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJ: REMARKS AND RESPONSES TO PRESS QUERIES BY SECRETARY VANCE
AND PRIME MINISTER BEGIN FOLLOWING MEETING AT PM'S RE-
SIDENCE, 4:00 P.M., AUGUST 6

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF REMARKS AND RESPONSES TO PRESS
QUERIES BY SECRETARY VANCE AND PRIME MINISTER BEGIN FOLLOWING
THEIR MEETING AT THE PRIME MINISTER'S RESIDENCE AT 4:00 P.M.,
AUGUST 6.

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2. BEGIN: I AM SPEAKING AS A HOST TO THE SECRETARY AND HIS
COLLEAGUES. WE HAD A VERY SERIOUS AND GOOD TALK ON THE SUBJECTS
THAT ARE ON THE AGENDA. I HOPE YOU DEVINED WHAT SUBJECTS WE
DISCUSSED, SO IT,S NOT NECESSARY FOR ME TO GO INTO ANY DETAILS.
WE MAY MEET TOMORROW AGAIN BUT THAT WILL BE DECIDED UPON IN THE
MORNING BEFORE THE SECRETARY LEAVES. WE WISH GODSPEED TO THE
SECRETARY TOMORROW WHEN HE GOES TO ALEXANDRIA. THERE IS A VERY

SERIOUS MATTER OF HOW TO RESUME AND RENEW THE PEACE-MAKING PROCESS. OF COURSE, WE WANT SUCH A RENEWAL OF THE PEACE-MAKING PROCESS. WE WANT A TRIPARTITE MEETING BETWEEN THE AMERICANS, THE EGYPTIANS AND THE ISRAELIS, AS IT WAS DECIDED UPON AT LEEDS, AND WE DO HOPE THAT THE SECRETARY, DURING HIS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT SADAT WILL BRING US THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT A BREAKTHROUGH. SO AGAIN I WOULD LIKE, ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL, TO THANK THE SECRETARY AND HIS COLLEAGUES FOR THE VISIT, AND WISH HIM REAL SUCCESS IN HIS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT SADAT. THANK YOU.

3. VANCE: THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MR. PRIME MINISTER LET ME THANK YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES FOR, AS YOU SAID, THE VERY SERIOUS AND USEFUL TALKS WHICH WE HAVE HAD TODAY. I WILL BE LEAVING TOMORROW NOON TO GO TO ALEXANDRIA AND EXPECT TO BE MEETING TOMORROW EVENING WITH PRESIDENT SADAT. I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER I WILL BE STAYING IN ALEXANDRIA THROUGH TUESDAY OR NOT. I BELIEVE THAT I PROBABLY WILL AND AFTER THAT I WILL BE RETURNING IMMEDIATELY TO THE UNITED STATES TO REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT. I SHARE THE HOPE AND THE NEED EXPRESSED BY THE PRIME MINISTER THAT WE FIND A WAY TO GET THE PEACE MOMENTUM MOVING AGAIN. IT IS IMPORTANT TO ALL OF US, AND IT IS IMPORTANT TO THE WORLD.

4. Q: MR. SECRETARY, I THINK WE'RE ALL A LITTLE PUZZLED. SINCE IT WAS THE EGYPTIANS THAT DON'T WANT TO TALK, AND THE ISRAELIS SAY THEY DO WANT TO TALK, WHAT DID YOU TALK TO THE ISRAELIS
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ABOUT FOR SIX HOURS TODAY? COULD YOU GIVE US SOME IDEA?

5. VANCE: WE TALKED ABOUT A WIDE VARIETY OF SUBJECTS, INCLUDING THE PEACE TALKS, THE STATE OF THE PEACE TALKS, HOW ONE MIGHT BE ABLE TO GAIN MOMENTUM IN THE PEACE TALKS. WE HAVE ALSO TALKED ABOUT THE SITUATION IN THE LEBANON AND WE HAVE TALKED ABOUT A NUMBER OF BILATERAL MATTERS AS WELL.

6. Q: DO YOU FEEL ENCOURAGED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY FOR THE PEACE TALKS?

7. VANCE: I HAVE SAID I'M NOT GOING TO COMMENT AT ALL ONE WAY OR THE OTHER ON THAT QUESTION UNTIL AFTER I HAVE COMPLETED MY DISCUSSIONS.

8. Q: MR. SECRETARY, WHAT ARE THE OBSTACLES TO GETTING THE PEACE TALKS GOING? WHY AREN'T THEY GOING?

9. VANCE: I HAVE TO COMPLETE MY DISCUSSIONS WITH THE PARTIES AND I THINK IT WOULD BE UNWISE FOR ME TO MAKE ANY COMMENTS UNTIL AFTER I HAVE DONE THAT.

10. Q: WOULD YOU SAY YOU'VE GOTTEN ANY NEW IDEAS THAT YOU WILL BE A ABLE TO TAKE TO ALEXANDRIA WITH YOU?

11. VANCE: I WILL REPEAT WHAT I SAID THIS MORNING. I THKNK THAT THESE HAVE BEEN SERIOUS AND USEFUL TALKS.

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 INR-10 PA-02
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O 061855Z AUG 78 ZFF-6
FM USDEL SECRETARY IN JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC
USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 SECTO 9015

SECSTATE FOR PA AND PA/PRESS
DEPARTMENT PASS NSC FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI AND WHITE HOUSE
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12. Q: WHAT WAS THE NATURE OF YOUR TALKS ON LEBANON?

13. VANCE: WE TALKED ABOUT THE SERIOUS PROBLEMTHAT EXISTS IN LEBANON AND THE WAYS TO TRY AND BRING ABOUT A CEASEFIRE AMONG THE PARTIES THERE. WE DISCUSSED THE SITUATION NOT ONLY IN NORTH LEBANON, BUT IN SOUTH LEBANON AS WELL, AND EXCHANGED VIEWS ON WHAT STEPS MIGHT BE TAKEN TO TRY AND BRING ABOUT A CESSATION OF THE CONFLICT THERE.

14. Q: MAY I ASK A QUESTION OF THE PRIME MINISTER?

15. BEGIN: WELL, I WANT TO THANK YOU. UNTIL NOW YOU HAVE PUT ALL THE QUESTIONS TO THE SECRETARY, AND YOU SET ME FREE. NOW, ASK YOUR QUESTION.

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16. Q: DO YOU THINK IF IT WERE NECESSARY FOR ISRAEL TO MAKE A COMMITMENT TO EVENTUALLY GIVE UP THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE WEST BANK AND GAZA TO GET THE PEACE PROCESS GOING AGAIN, WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO DO THAT?

17. BEGIN: WELL, WE MADE A VERY CLEAR STATEMENT. THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MY FRIEND DAYAN, MADE A STATEMENT TO THE KNESSET, APPROVED FIRST BY THE CABINET THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEM OF SOVEREIGNTY IN JUDEA, SAMARIA AND THE GAZA STRIP, FIVE YEARS AFTER THE PEACE IS CONCLUDED, AND OUR PLAN FOR SELF-RULE FOR THE PALESTINIAN ARABS COMES INTO FORCE. THIS IS OUR STAND, AND THIS IS MY REPLY TO YOUR QUESTION.

18. Q: MR. BEGIN, IS THE UNITED STATES REQUESTING ANY CHANGE IN ISRAEL'S POSITION? WOULD THAT BE THE NATURE OF ANOTHER MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES?

19. BEGIN: I CAN ASSURE THAT WE HAVE HAD VERY SERIOUS DISCUSSIONS ON ALL SUBJECTS MENTIONED, AND IF MY COLLEAGUE AND FRIEND MR. MEISELS SAID THAT WE SPOKE FOR SIX HOURS; I MUST CORRECT HIM--FOR FOUR AND-A-HALF HOURS, AND WE DIDN'T LOSE EVEN FIVE MINUTES. ALL THE DISCUSSIONS WERE VERY SERIOUS INCLUDING THAT QUESTION, BUT I CANNOT GO INTO THE DETAILS ANY MORE.

20. Q: MR. PRIME MINISTER, WE ASKED YOU EARLY TODAY, AND PERHAPS YOU'VE BEEN ASKED THIS AFTERNOON, WAS THERE ANY PROPOSAL PUT FORTH BY THE SECRETARY ALONG THE LINES, THAT WE READ IN THE PRESS, OF A SUMMIT IN WASHINGTON OF PRESIDENT CARTER, YOU AND PRESIDENT SADAT?

21. BEGIN: NO, SUCH A PROBLEM WAS NOT RAISED DURING OUR DISCUSSIONS.

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22. Q: WOULD THAT BE A PROBLEM OR A PROPOSAL?

23. BEGIN: WELL, YOU ASKED ME A QUESTION; I GAVE YOU THE ANSWER. YOU CAN USE ANY TERM-PROPOSAL, SUGGESTION, IDEA--BUT IT WAS NOT BROUGHT UP DURING OUR DISCUSSIONS OF THE DELEGATIONS.

24. Q: MR. SECRETARY, WOULD YOU COMMENT ON THAT?

25. VANCE: I HAVE INDICATED THAT I AM NOT GOING TO SAY ANYTHING ABOUT ANY OF THE DISCUSSIONS THAT I HAVE WITH EITHER THE PRIME MINISTER OR PRESIDENT SADAT IN SO FAR AS ANY OF THE DETAILS OF THE CONVERSATION ARE CONCERNED, AND I'S GOING TO STICK TO THAT.

26. Q: (TO BEGIN, INAUDIBLE).

27. BEGIN: NO, WE HAVE A PEACE PLAN. WE ELABORATED IT; WE PRODUCED IT; THERE WAS A LEEDS CONFERENCE. THERE WAS A STATEMENT BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER TO THE KNESSET. ALL THE FACTS ARE KNOWN. BUT WE HAVE OF COURSE ALWAYS SERIOUS QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS WHEN THE SECRETARY OF STATE COMES TO US. NOW WHAT WE WANT IS TO WISH HIM SUCCESS. PERHAPS YOU WILL JOIN US IN THE EXPRESSION AND THE HOPE THAT HE SUCCEEDS IN ALEXANDRIA, IF THERE WILL BE THE ATMOSPHERE IN ALEXANDRIA AS IT WAS IN JERUSALEM. THEN HE WILL SUCCEED.

28. Q: MR. PRIME MINISTER, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. (REMARKS END)
VANCE

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